

**FAX RECEIVED**

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

Application Serial No. .... 09/827,248  
Filing Date .... April 4, 2001  
Inventor .... David R. Hembree  
Assignee .... Micron Technology, Inc.  
Group Art Unit .... 2829  
Examiner .... V. Nguyen  
Attorney's Docket No. .... MI22-1684  
Title: Methods of Processing a Workpiece, Methods of Communicating Signals With  
Respect to a Wafer, and Methods of Communicating Signals Within a Workpiece  
Processing Apparatus

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT TO ACCOMPANY RCE FILING**

To: Mail Stop Petitions - Attn: Frances Hicks  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

From: James D. Shaurette (Tel. 509-624-4276; Fax 509-838-3424)  
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Sir:

In the following Preliminary Amendment, Applicants amend and remark as follows:

**AMENDMENTS**